Thou damned and luxurious mountain goat[16],
Offer'st me brass?

FR. SOL. O pardonnez moy!

[ec] Speak it in French, king: say, pardonnez *moy.*
" Dost thou teach pardon pardon to *destroy?*"
See also vol. iv. p. 419, n. 3.

The word *bras* was, without doubt, pronounced, in the last age, by the French, and by the English who understood French, as at present, *bravo.* So, as Dr. Farmer observes to me, in the prologue to The First Day's Entertainment at Rutland House, by Sir W. D'Avenant:

" And could the walls to such a wideness *draw,*
" That all might sit at ease in *chaise et bras.*"*

Drummond of Hawthornden tells us that Ben Jonson did not understand French. It does not, I own, therefore follow that Shakspeare was also unacquainted with that language: but I think it is highly probable that that was the case; or at least that his knowledge of it was very slight. MALONE.

A question having arisen concerning the pronunciation of the French word *bras* in the time of Shakspeare, it was observed in a former note that some remarks by the Rev. Mr. Bowie, in another place, had contributed at least to leave the matter open to discussion. That gentleman has certainly offered some evidence from Pasquier, that in the *middle* of words the *s* was pronounced where now it is silent; but on the other hand there is positive proof that the contrary practice prevailed in 1572, when De la Ramee published his French grammar. At page 19, he says: "Premierement nous sommes prodigues en lescripture de *s, sans la prononcer* comme en *maistre, mesler, oster, soustenir*" This writer has expatiated on the difficulty which foreigners have in pronouncing the French language on account of its orthography, and offered a new mode by which it may be avoided. In the course of this specimen he has, fortunately for the present occasion, printed the word *bras* without the *s,* (see p. 61.) and thereby supplied the means of deciding the present question, which, after all, was scarcely worth a controversy. Whoever wrote this dialogue was unacquainted with the true pronunciation of the French language, as Mr. Malone has already remarked, and framed Pistol's reply accordingly. In Eliot's Orthoepia Gallica, 1593, 4to. mentioned in Dr. Farmer's note, there is a passage which seems to have escaped the doctor's notice. In page 61. the author directs the sentence " vous avez un *bras* de

fer," to be pro-^
nounced " voo-za-ve-xewn *bra* de fer."*' DotrcE.
fi —LUXURIOUS mountain goat,] *Luxurious* means *lascivious.*
So, in Much Ado About Nothing:
** She knows the heat of a *luxurious* bed." STEEVENS.
5